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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Louis Rousseau) Group Art Unit 1764
Appl. No. : 09/284,690)
Filed : July 16, 1999)
For : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR)
HEAT TREATMENT OF)
WASTE PRODUCTS)
Examiner : Doroshenk, A.)

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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 13, 2001 (Paper No. 11), please consider the following remarks:

REMARKS

The Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the withdrawal of the objection to the drawings and the rejection to the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The present remarks address the substance of the office action.

I. Rejection of Claims 2-4 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner has maintained the Claims 2-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) on the assertion that they are anticipated by Giraud (U.S. Patent No. 3,916,806). Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested. The Examiner asserts that the structure of the retaining threshold is not defined in the claims or in the specification. The Applicant respectfully disagrees. At page 3, at lines 34 to 36, the specification provides that "retaining of the waste, artificially created by the threshold,